



Appendix F

Cooperation with Other Federal Agencies

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Introduction

Sometimes regulations of different Federal agencies govern the same importations. As a result, Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ) cooperates with the following Federal Agencies at ports of entry regarding importations of animals, animal products, animal by-products, plants, plant products, and plant by-products.

Federal Agencies Cooperating with PPQ

The cooperation PPQ receives from other Federal Agencies helps accomplish the mission of preventing the introduction of agricultural pests and diseases. When Customs and Immigration act on behalf of PPQ and board private aircraft, yachts, and ships and inspect passengers' baggage, the inspectors must have a clear understanding of the requirements and arrangements for safeguarding and disposing of seized agricultural contraband. When other Federal Agencies perform clearance activities on behalf of PPQ, be sure to establish an accurate and timely reporting system which reflects the work accomplished by other Agencies for PPQ.

PPQ Cooperation with Other Federal Agencies

Procedures for PPQ cooperation with other Federal Agencies follows.

United States Customs Service (Customs)

Customs maintains primary control over entries. Maintain communications with Customs when regulatory action is taken on animal products or by-products, plants, plant products, and plant by-products. Cooperate with Customs in the releasing of plant and animal products that are held by PPQ. Once PPQ requirements have been met, release the cargo to Customs if applicable to local operations. **Do not** release cargo directly to the importer because Customs may still have Customs entry requirements to meet. Customs is also responsible for ascertaining that the regulatory requirements of other Federal Agencies are met.



Do not break Customs' seals when conducting an inspection. If you find a Customs seal on a locker, container, or storeroom that you want to inspect, then notify Customs and have them break and replace the seal.



Refer to Customs anything that they specifically alert you to, or which you know is of interest, e.g., illegal drugs, nonmanifested cargo, etc.

Department of Defense (DOD)

The Department of Defense (DOD), Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps, works with APHIS to prevent the introduction of foreign agricultural and public health threats into the continental United States (CONUS). This cooperation includes the following:

- ◆ Removing or cleaning all soil and other debris from military equipment and vehicles from outside CONUS
- ◆ Preventing the possible military importation of unwanted animals, such as snakes, insects, snails, and various crustaceans that are present in most of the world-wide areas frequented by DOD
- ◆ Preclearing (before they return to the United States) military personnel, baggage, and equipment used overseas (done with the cooperation of APHIS employees and military Customs inspectors)
- ◆ Informing military personnel of clearance procedures, exemptions, restrictions, and prohibitions before arriving in CONUS
- ◆ Providing advance notification for military aircraft and vessel arrivals at the point of entry

- ◆ Ensuring that household goods, personnel effects, and outdoor equipment are carefully examined and cleaned prior to packing and shipping to CONUS
- ◆ Dissuading personnel from mailing or shipping restricted or prohibited agricultural items
- ◆ Notifying PPQ of large-scale movement of military personnel and equipment to the United States

Food and Drug Administration of the Department of Health and Human Services (FDA)

Refer the following importations to Customs for referral to an FDA inspector:

- ◆ Any drug, medication, or food intended for animals that FDA has indicated an interest in; consult your local FDA inspector for specific items of interest
- ◆ Betel nuts
- ◆ Canned ackees
- ◆ Catha edulis (khat)
- ◆ Commercial importations of food products
- ◆ Crude papain
- ◆ Mung beans from Thailand
- ◆ Various herbs
- ◆ Wild fowl meat
- ◆ Wild ruminant meat

Fish and Wildlife Service of the Department of the Interior (FWS)

Refer the following to the United States Customs Service (Customs) for referral to an FWS officer, or to Customs if an FWS officer is unavailable:

- ◆ Nonfarm animals, including birds, but excepting cats, cattle, dogs, goats, horses, pet birds, sheep, and swine
- ◆ Animal by-products such as coats, game trophies, ivory products, pelts, skins, tortoise shell products, and egg importations if from an endangered or threatened bird
- ◆ Abandoned pet birds (also contact VS who is the first concern)

Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS)

Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is responsible for regulating the importation of meat and meat products by ensuring that they are safe, wholesome, and unadulterated products for human consumption. Refer all imported meat and meat products, and shell

eggs for breaking to FSIS.¹ Refer importations of shell eggs for breaking to FSIS to issue FSIS Form 5200-8, Import Request Egg Products.

FSIS makes sure that the meat and meat products are safe, wholesome, and pure products for human consumption (**except** wild ruminant and wild fowl—see FDA). Foreign countries must have FSIS approval that their foreign inspection service is the equivalent of FSIS. The foreign country is then allowed to issue certificates for the commercial importation of meat and meat products. In addition, FSIS inspects and samples imported meat and meat products for meeting APHIS requirements and regulations designed to prevent the spread of animal diseases.

Public Health Service of the Department of Health and Human Services (PHS)

Refer the following importations to Customs for referral to the local Public Health Service (PHS) inspector:

- ◆ Dogs, cats, and monkeys (non-human primates)
- ◆ Lather brushes made from hair and bristles
- ◆ Human disease agents and their vectors
- ◆ Human vaccines and biologics, including human tissues, serum, blood, secretions, and excretions.

If you question whether an importation imported for biological use is of animal origin, ask your supervisor or a HQ, PPQ, VMO in PPQ, VRS.

Veterinary Services (VS)

Veterinary Services (VS) regulations control domestic and foreign commerce of live animals, live poultry, and their products. Since 1971, VS and PPQ have shared the responsibility for implementing, enforcing, and administering animal product and foreign garbage regulations and policies to prevent the introduction of foreign animal diseases.

Refer the following to the local VS office:

- ◆ Animal semen, ova, or embryo shipments (empty containers are handled by PPQ)

¹ For commercial shipments only, FDA and FSIS require that the food product's label show the container's ingredients and weight of the product in English. If a commercial shipment lacks this information, contact the appropriate agency. This might save you time determining enterability since the product may be rejected by another agency.

- ◆ Dogs imported to handle livestock, **except** dogs from Canada, Mexico, Central America, and the West Indies; require freedom from tapeworm (*Taenia eoenurus*)



For all dogs, require freedom from tapeworm, *Taenia eoenurus*.

- ◆ Live animals, live birds, and hatching eggs
- ◆ Abandoned pet birds (also contact FWS)

When receiving a question relating to animal disease exclusions, consult your *Animal Product Manual*. If you cannot answer the question, use **Table F-1-1** to determine where to refer questions in VS.

TABLE F-1-1 Determine Where to Refer Questions in Veterinary Services (VS)

If the question relates to:	And the APM does not answer the question, then refer the question to:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Live animals including birds ◆ Hatching eggs ◆ Animal semen, ova, and embryos 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The appropriate VS Field Office 2. If the question cannot be answered locally, then refer the question through normal channels to VS Import-Export Animals Staff at 301/734-8364
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Organisms and vectors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ PPQ, VRS at 301/734-7633 ◆ VS Technical Trade Services Products Staff (TTSPS) at 301/734-3277
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Permit renewals for veterinary biological products 	The Center for Veterinary Biologics (VS, CVB) at 301/734-8245
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ VS permit renewals 	VS, TTSPS at 301/734-3277
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Meat ◆ Animal products ◆ Animal by-products ◆ Associated materials 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Your supervisor 2. If the question cannot be answered locally, then refer the question to PPQ, VRS at 301/734-7633

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